ROXBURY
COMMUNITY COLLEGE

43rd Annual Commencement

Friday, May 18, 2018
One O'Clock P.M.
Reggie Lewis Track and Athletic Center

The National Anthem

Oh, say, can you see by the dawn's early light,
What so proudly we hailed at the twilight's last gleaming?
Whose broad stripes and bright stars thru the perilous fight,
O'er the ramparts we watched, were so gallantly streaming?
And the rockets' red glare, the bombs bursting in air,
Gave proof through the night that our flag was still there.
Oh say, does that star-spangled banner yet wave
O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave?

Francis Scott Key
1779 - 1843

Lift Every Voice and Sing

Lift every voice and sing, till earth and heaven ring,
Ring with the harmonies of liberty;
Let our rejoicing rise, high as the list'ning skies,
Let it resound loud as the rolling sea.
Sing a song full of the faith that the dark past has taught us,
Sing a song full of the hope that the present has brought us;
Facing the rising sun of our new day begun,
Let us march on till victory is won.

James Weldon Johnson
1871 - 1938

Program

Prelude

Processional
Richard Eells, Professor, Department of Mathematics
Job Corps Color Guard

National Anthem

Lift Every Voice and Sing
Lisa Bello, Vocalist

Graduates' Greetings from Around the World
Nora Saeed, Early Childhood Education – Arabic
Linda Celestin-Pierre, Health Sciences – French
Jonas Darilus, Business Administration – Haitian Creole
Aeffia Feuerstein, Liberal Arts – Hebrew
Maolis Castillo Reizakis, Criminal Justice – Spanish

Musical Selection
Lisa Bello, Vocalist

Introduction of Co-Valedictorians
Israul Marrero, Trustee
Amanda Schaeffer, Alumni Trustee

Valedictorian Address
Maolis Castillo Reizakis, Criminal Justice
Shauna-Lee Smith, Health Careers

Introduction of the Commencement Speaker
Dr. Valerie R. Roberson, President

Commencement Address
The Honorable Jeffrey Sánchez, House of Representatives, Commonwealth of Massachusetts

Authorization by the Board of Trustees
Gerald Chertavian, Chair, Board of Trustees

Presentation of Degrees and Certificates
Gerald Chertavian, Chair, Board of Trustees
Dr. Valerie R. Roberson, President

Presentation of Alumni Association Service Award
Dr. Valerie R. Roberson

Recessional
The audience is requested to remain seated during the recessional until all graduates have left the arena.

Message from the President

Dr. Valerie R. Roberson



Today marks the beginning of an exciting new phase of your life, a time filled with new opportunities, experiences and growth. As you move forward, I hope you look back on your years at Roxbury Community College with pride and love. As I reflect on the accomplishments of the Class of 2018, I am inspired by your determination and resilience to accomplish your goals. I am both amazed and proud. I hope that you cherish the memories you made at Roxbury Community College and that you use the totality of what you've learned here for years to come.

I extend my heartiest congratulations to the Class of 2018.

I wish each of you the very best, and I know that you will be successful in your future endeavors.

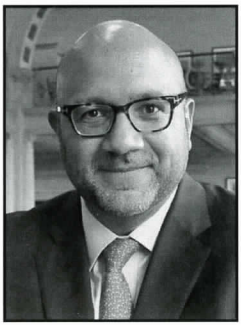
Sincerely,

Valerie R. Roberson

Dr. Valerie R. Roberson President

Commencement Speaker

The Honorable Jeffrey Sánchez



Jeffrey Sánchez grew up in public housing in Mission Hill, where his mother was a community activist who successfully organized with neighbors to demand better housing conditions from the Boston Housing Authority. He currently represents the communities of Mission Hill, Jamaica Plain, Roslindale, and Brookline as State Representative, where he has focused on ensuring access to universal healthcare, violence prevention, and affordable housing throughout his tenure. He serves as the Chair of the House Committee on Ways and Means, which is responsible for crafting the state's annual budget, as well as legislation affecting the finances of the Commonwealth.

Throughout his time in the Massachusetts House of Representatives, Representative Sánchez has emphasized bringing people together to work out their differences and pass laws that improve the lives of residents in the Commonwealth. He played a role passing healthcare reform in 2006, which has brought health insurance to 98% of the state's population and served as a model for the Affordable Care Act, successfully defeated efforts to repeal gay marriage, championed comprehensive criminal justice reform policies and funding to help people turn their lives around, and voted for Massachusetts' strongest-in-the-nation gun control legislation, including a ban on bump stocks. And, he has been a successful advocate for English language learners: after filing legislation for 15 years, the Governor signed the Language Opportunities for Our Kids Act, which will improve education for English language learners across Massachusetts.

Previously, Jeffrey Sánchez served as the Chair of the Joint Committee on Health Care Financing and the Chair of the Joint Committee on Public Health as well as the Vice-Chair of the Joint Committee on Economic Development. He worked for Boston Mayor Thomas Michael Menino from 1995 to 2001, and ran the 2000 Census for the City of Boston. He attended Roxbury Community

Continue...

College and received his Bachelor of Arts in Legal Education from the University of Massachusetts, Boston before earning his Masters of Public Administration from the John F. Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University. Sánchez also serves as an instructor at the Harvard University T.H. Chan School of Public Health. He currently lives in Jamaica Plain with his wife, Brenda, and two daughters.

Commencement Vocalist

Ms. Lisa Bello

Lisa Bello is multi-award winning soul singer from the East Coast. She is a Boston Music Award winning Female Vocalist & R&B Vocalist of the Year. Lisa has won the New England Nightlife Independent Artist of the Year award and the Humanitarian Songwriter of the Year in the 9th annual OUTmusic Awards. In 2018 she won the John Lennon Songwriting Contest in the Hip Hop category. Lisa got her start in the industry at 13 by demoing for renowned artists such as Jojo, Kelly Clarkson and Mandy Moore. Her voice has been heard on Prime Suspect, Law & Order, and How'd You Get So Rich. Lisa sang the hook on TLC & Missy Elliots "Lets Just Do it". She sang the daily "Jam Scam" intros for iHeart Radio's JAMN 94.5. Lisa has opened for Chaka Kahn, Bobby Brown, Kevin Ross, Nina Sky, 112, New Edition, Jason Derulo and Jeff Timmons (98 Degrees) Vegas-strip Show. Lisa is a Frequent National Anthem singer for MLB, UFC and NFL stadiums including Fenway Park for the Boston Red Sox and CitiField for the New York Mets.

Scholarships & Awards

Jack Kent Cooke Foundation Scholarship

The Jack Kent Cooke Foundation Undergraduate Transfer Scholarship is a highly-selective scholarship for the nation's top community college students seeking to complete bachelor's degrees at selective four-year colleges and universities. The foundation provides up to $40,000 per year for up to three years for community college students who demonstrate academic excellence and financial need. The first Roxbury Community College graduate to be selected for this scholarship is:

- *Aeffia Feuerstein*

Phi Theta Kappa

Phi Theta Kappa International Honor Society recognizes high achieving two-year college students who demonstrate academic excellence and intellectual rigor, combined with leadership and service beyond the classroom. PTK sponsors All State Academic Team recognition programs in 38 states.

Phi Theta Kappa All Massachusetts Teams 2018

- *Gabriel Gbidye*
- *Natalie Grill-Noyes*

Roxbury Community College Alumni Association

The Roxbury Community College Alumni Association is being recognized for its unique and extraordinary service to the College through networking opportunities, sponsored programs and events. Membership in the RCC Alumni Association is open to all degree graduates, certificate graduates and friends of the College. Recognized as the College's best ambassadors and as an integral part of the College community, members of the Alumni Association actively participate in and support key programs that enhance the College's mission. Through the Alumni Association, interested alumni may stay actively involved with the College in a variety of ways, serving as alumni mentors for students, working on event committees or serving on the Alumni Association Board of Directors.

- *Kodjo Agblekpe, President*

Commencement Color Guard

Job Corps

Job Corps is a federally-funded comprehensive program that provides essential academic and career skills training and prepares students for success in every aspect of their lives. Established in 1964, Job Corps helps young people aged 16-24 years to complete their high school education and participate in training for meaningful careers. Participants are provided room and board and a stipend while they work toward learning a trade for up to two years. Approximately 90% of Job Corps graduates move into careers in the private sector, serve in the military or matriculate into higher education. Roxbury Community College is proud to be recognized as a Job Corps partner organization.

Class of 2018

Honors
GPA range: 3.00 - 3.49

High Honors
GPA range: 3.50 - 3.75

Highest Honors
GPA range: 3.76 - 4.00

Honors Program
Students who have fulfilled the Honors Program have maintained a minimum GPA of 3.3 and have completed three or more Honors courses.

* = *Honors*
** = *High Honors*
*** = *Highest Honors*
🎓 = *Honors Program*

The Registrar of Roxbury Community College maintains the official list of all graduates and honor designations. This program is only for ceremonial purposes.

Associate of Arts

Grace Mathina Adamu
Health Careers

Iyanuoluwa Adebanjo
Health Careers

Rebekah Oluwakemi Adeleke**
Health Careers

Helen R. Afogho
Health Careers

Genet M. Ageba*
Health Careers

Frantz Ahrendts
Liberal Arts

Praise David Aiya**
Health Careers

Omotoyosi R. Ajanaku**
Health Careers

Khafilat A. Akanji***
Health Careers

Lataisha Charmaine Akeke**
Health Careers

Denyse Kujichagulia Edge-Allen**
Social Science

Kennette W. Allen*
Business Administration

Oksana N. Anatienko**
Health Careers

Tiara Marcel Anderson-Callender*
Business Administration

Wenda Baby Andre
Health Careers

Shatiana Appleberry
Social Science

Lisa Maria Azadzoi*
Health Careers

Mariama D. Bah*
Health Careers

Denise Barnes
Health Careers

Fatoumata Binta Barry
Health Careers

Isemanie Bazile*
Health Careers

Joanna Shirlana Oxley***
Business Administration

Eugenie Bellevue*
Health Careers

Melissa Beltran Tejeda
Liberal Arts

Vernessa J. Blake**
Health Careers

Stevon Lamar Brathwaite
Liberal Arts

Valerie H. Brown*
Health Careers

Latoya Brown-Stewart***
Health Careers

Beverly Rose Cargill*
Health Careers

Cecelia L. Carr
Liberal Arts

Anthony R. Carter
Broadcast Media Technology

Daniel Castro
Liberal Arts

Linda Celestin Pierre***
Health Careers

Esther Petual Cesar
Health Careers

Kimberly Chambers
Health Careers

Noubi Laurette Chegang**
Health Careers

Lawrence C. Chèry*
Liberal Arts

Linda A. Chery
Broadcast Media Technology

Sircey S. Christalin**
Health Careers

Sherly A. Colon
Biological Science

Quanika Genesis Conard*
Health Careers

Ayana Jean Copeland*
Liberal Arts

Mohamed L. Damba
Liberal Arts

Jonas Darilus*
Business Administration

Shijeana Davis*
Health Careers

Geraldine Delances*
Health Careers

Marcelina Martins Deleon**
Liberal Arts

Damien Depeiza*
Biological Science

Zelangela DePina**
Health Careers

Rodely Destine
Biological Science

Freddy Lorenzo Dosouto*
Physical Science

Ylenise Edmond*
Health Careers

Sabna F. Edouard
Business Administration

Geraldine C. Egeonu**
Health Careers

Roseline Ivie Ehi*
Health Careers

Shakirah Saleemah Ellison*
Liberal Arts

Amenaghawon Erhunmwunse**
Health Careers

Rhea M. Faustin**
Health Careers

Chantale Fenelus**
Health Careers

Aeffia Feuerstein***
Liberal Arts

Kendra Pierre Marie Fiote-Pierre
Health Careers

Deonte Flounory
Business Administration

Renika L. Foster
Business Administration

Leisa Francis*
Health Careers

Mary Ann Franklin*
Social Science

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Associate of Arts

Lisa Franklin*
Health Careers

Marlene Andrea Garrison***
Health Careers

Kedest K. Gebru*
Health Careers

Pierre M. Gelin
Health Careers

Elda Genelien
Health Careers

Talitha Giarratani
Social Science

Theresa Y. Grannum*
Liberal Arts

Daisy Green*
Liberal Arts

Messiah Shaquania Handy
Biological Science

Jamilex Herrera
Health Careers

Rachael Kikelomo Idemudia*
Health Careers

Osarume Scott Idubor***
Health Careers

Chinonye Ihenetu*
Social Science

Osarugue Edith Imasuen
Health Careers

Issam Y. Irziqat
Broadcast Media Technology

Nerlande Jacque Jean*
Liberal Arts

Monique Maria Jainarain
Business Administration

Joanne Jean*
Health Careers

Widline Jean Baptiste*
Health Careers

Adeline Jean-Baptiste*
Health Careers

Olga Jean-Michel*
Health Careers

Jillian Nadine Jones*
Health Careers

Anastasia C. Joseph
Health Careers

Dicko L. Kasongo**
Business Administration

Khatijah King
Health Careers

Enkid Koci*
Mathematics

Fatoumata Dada Koureissi**
Health Careers

Tatiana Lang*
Biological Science

Ariel Maxine Leveque
Health Careers

Ray A. Lewis*
Liberal Arts

Daniel D. McAfee
Business Administration

Melissa C. McKenzie*
Health Careers

Crystel P. McKinney
Broadcast Media Technology

Cindy M Mejia*
Social Science

Laverne Senior-Mejia*
Health Careers

Louidor Michel
Health Careers

Nehemiah Kitwanda Muhikira
Liberal Arts

Ann Nansubuga*
Health Careers

Naomi Z. Negash**
Health Careers

Feiyo-Peik Nghidinwa*
Musical Arts

Aneth Nivar
Health Careers

Lasheena T. Noble*
Business Administration

Natalie Grillo Noyes***
Biological Science

Blessing Osa Obaseki**
Health Careers

Rasheedat Ojerinde
Biological Science

Sylvia Omolara Olanikawo**
Health Careers

Ceola A. Oliver*
Health Careers

Evbayowieru A. Omo
Health Careers

Helen Osawe**
Health Careers

Ozulumba Nduka Kelechi
Health Careers

Myleicia Michelle Pankey
Liberal Arts

Monique Lashanda Paul*
Social Science

Cassandra Paul*
Liberal Arts

Jaleah Perryman*
Social Science

Ravai A. Petty
Mathematics

Colbert Pierre*
Health Careers

Jean Maxime Pierre*
Health Careers

Fredline Pierre Louis*
Business Administration

Radairis Kiara Pons*
Social Science

Sarah Rejouis*
Arts and Humanities

Nioka Roberts*
Business Administration

Chiquita Robertson*
Health Careers

Imani Chantel Robinson*
Health Careers

Joyce Rodriguez*
Biological Science

Patricia Romain*
Health Careers

Joshua Cody Salmons*
Liberal Arts

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Associate of Arts

Carolin Melissa Santana Ramirez*
Health Careers

Ada Mercedez Santiago
Health Careers

Mekonnen Yared Seifu*
Business Administration

Queen G. Shaw*
Liberal Arts

McCaela Cassandra Shaw
Health Careers

Shauna-Lee Smith***
Health Careers

Toni Nicole Strong***
Liberal Arts

Ladonna Y. Sutherland**
Health Careers

Nwenna Swan*
Business Administration

Christelle Telisma
Liberal Arts

Carline Thesee**
Health Careers

Adiam D. Tsegay**
Health Careers

Jesse Ulerio*
Health Careers

Kendy Valbrun
Liberal Arts

Agnes C. Vargas-Rivera*
Business Administration

Gricelda Velasquez
Health Careers

Emily Villar
Health Careers

Anthony T. Washington
Social Science

Maria A. Watson*
Liberal Arts

Kiara Webb*
Social Science

Donnaneisha Deneisha Williams
Health Careers

Brandon Williams*
Business Administration

Denise Lasalle Williams*
Business Administration

Michael Wogbeh
Biological Science

Halleluya Worku**
Biological Science

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Associate of Science

Nardos G. Abbay
ADN Nursing

Krystal Lee Alicea Adorno
Criminal Justice

Eseroghene Benjamin Akporhonor*
ADN Nursing

Vasthi Pierre
ADN Nursing

Tyanna Allen
ADN Nursing

Lavernita T. Anderson***
Early Childhood Education

Lamont D. Anderson**
Criminal Justice

Glendely Michelle Avalo Valdez
ADN Nursing

Eannick Cardoso Barbosa*
Business Management

Jahmari Winston Bartley
Criminal Justice

Jamae Natasha Benain**
Accounting

Lakeyshan Blaise
ADN Nursing

Amanda C. Blomberg
ADN Nursing

Marquisha Elizabeth Bowen*
Criminal Justice

Kenneth C. Byl
ADN Nursing

Daniela Ivette Cardoso*
ADN Nursing

Margarette Casimir
ADN Nursing

Maolis Castillo Reizakis***
Criminal Justice

Rachelle Cenafils
Criminal Justice

Brodsky Cenafils
Accounting

Destinee Chandler***
Information System Technology

Joanna M. Chaparro***
Early Childhood Education

Sandra Cardoso Chicha*
Criminal Justice

Bianca Rahshana Clouden
ADN Nursing

Audrey Etlinger Cohen**
ADN Nursing

Maria Rocha Coronel
Accounting

Kimberly Cruz
Radiologic Technology

Molly Curley***
Radiologic Technology

KerriAnn M. Cusack***
Radiologic Technology

Yvonne Ebiakpor Davis**
ADN Nursing

Melisse Vaz de Andrade*
ADN Nursing

Brian Donna
Business Management

Anthony Fernandes Dosouto*
Early Childhood Education

John Duah
ADN Nursing

Deqa Elmi
ADN Nursing

John Carl Exantus*
Business Management

Tammy Altagracia Fernandez
ADN Nursing

Lunda Francois Philippe**
ADN Nursing

Joelma Freitas*
Early Childhood Education

Teresa Ann Fulcher
ADN Nursing

Fenzy M. Gaston
Radiologic Technology

Alexander Gonzalez*
Criminal Justice

Abduraham Abib Grujog***
Accounting

Michael Hajjar***
Engineering

Bernise Brena Hall*
Early Childhood Education

Sherry B. Laing-Hall
Criminal Justice

Stacy Dawn Hansen*
ADN Nursing

Mee Her*
ADN Nursing

Daniel Antonio Hernandez Jr*
Criminal Justice

Kadejah Marie Hollingsworth*
Early Childhood Education

Michelle Alicia Horner**
ADN Nursing

Aweis A. Hussein
ADN Nursing

Ogochukwu N. Igweobi*
ADN Nursing

Lounely Jean**
ADN Nursing

Arthur D. Jefferies*
Accounting

Helen Johnson
Criminal Justice

Nicholas Kariuki
ADN Nursing

Gregory Dimitrios Koulisis*
ADN Nursing

Jean R. LaFortune
Criminal Justice

Kerson Esmelin Lara
Criminal Justice

Ho Man Lau*
Business Management

Lisa A. Mayes***
Early Childhood Education

Vivian Chioma Mbawuike**
ADN Nursing

Jane Ogola Mbayi**
ADN Nursing

Jada M. McNeil
Criminal Justice

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Associate of Science

Riyad Mohammed*
Radiologic Technology

Christina M Moreschi***
ADN Nursing

Loretta Oruma-Mukoro
ADN Nursing

Alexa J. Murray*
Radiologic Technology

Abdul Foday Musa*
Biotechnology

Angella Nanfuka*
ADN Nursing

Ezequiel Rodrigues Neves**
Radiologic Technology

Trishawna Newson*
Radiologic Technology

Catherine G. Njagi
ADN Nursing

Barbatine Saint-Louis
Early Childhood Education

Paula Ijeoma Nzenwa**
ADN Nursing

Aidarous Ahmed Odowa
Accounting

Widlaire Pacombe*
Criminal Justice

Carlos Miguel Paulino*
Criminal Justice

Jules B. Pierre*
Radiologic Technology

Vanessa Pierre-Louis
ADN Nursing

Andrew Pogue
ADN Nursing

Hannah Powers***
Radiologic Technology

Mark A. Richardson*
Accounting

Noelia Mariadeliz Rodriguez**
Criminal Justice

Abiola T. Romiluyi*
ADN Nursing

Judith Rousseau
ADN Nursing

Nia C. Ruiz Manickchan
ADN Nursing

Nora T. Saeed**
Early Childhood Education

Veronique Mary Saintcyr
Criminal Justice

Christian S. Repizo
Engineering

Alciberto Silva Jr.**
Engineering

Jacqueline Soto*
ADN Nursing

Amadou Sow**
Engineering

Desirèe Lynne Sullivan*
ADN Nursing

Alyssa Valerie Teekema**
Radiologic Technology

Cherlyne R. Thermezy**
Business Management

Jonathan Titcomb
ADN Nursing

Sasha L. Torres**
Early Childhood Education

Marie Guilene Toussaint**
Early Childhood Education

Ashley Ngoc Tran*
Biotechnology

Vilma I. Reid***
Business Management

Agnes Vargas Rivera*
Accounting

Victoria Afi Wadja
ADN Nursing

Trina C. Waldron**
Radiologic Technology

Tasha Walker*
ADN Nursing

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Academic Regalia

The caps, gowns and hoods of the academic procession date back to the Middle Ages when they were common dress for scholars. The Bachelor's gown has a pleated front and long, pointed sleeves. The Master's gown, which may be worn open, is distinguished by its long square sleeves. The Doctor's gown is trimmed with velvet panels and has three velvet bars on the bell shaped sleeves.

The hood provides the color, contrast and symbolism of the procession. Certain colors became associated with particular areas of knowledge. For example, the hood border worn by a doctor of theology was red, a color associated with the Catholic Church; a medical doctor wore a green border, which relates to the healing powers of medicinal herbs. Regalia may also pay respect to the colors of the college or university from which the scholar graduated.

Departmental Colors of Faculty Members' Hoods & Tassels

Accounting	Drab
Arts, Humanities	White
Business	Drab
Communications	Crimson
Criminal Justice	Midnight Blue
Economics	Copper
Education	Light Blue
Engineering	Orange
Fine Arts	Brown
Journalism	Crimson
Law	Purple
Library Science	Lemon
Mathematics	Science Gold
Medicine	Green
Music	Pink
Nursing	Apricot
Philosophy	Dark Blue
Psychology	Gold
Science	Golden Yellow
Social Work	Citron
Theology	Scarlet

Roxbury Community College

Your Future is our Focus

Roxbury Community College has persevered in providing access to higher education since 1973. Roxbury Community College's dedicated faculty, staff, and administration served the educational needs of students who did not have equal opportunities for an affordable, high quality college education. The greater Roxbury community was essential in advocating for a permanent home for the College. In the Spring of 1988, the current RCC campus was constructed as the cornerstone of the Southwest Corridor in lower Roxbury.

Roxbury Community College has grown over the years serving more students with relevant degree and certificate programs. Major renovations began in 2016 with the goal of improving learning spaces and establishing sustainable use of resources. The fifteen-acre campus includes state-of-the-art upgrades to the Media Arts Building, Academic Building, Science Laboratories, Health Sciences Simulation Center, Student Commons, Library, Academic Support Center, and the Reggie Lewis Track and Athletic Center. Parking lot renovations were coordinated with the award-winning installation of geothermal wells that heat and cool the campus, and solar panels that produce electricity for the College and the city.

A global village, Roxbury Community College's multicultural and ethnically diverse student population has set it apart from other community colleges in the Commonwealth. Although most of our students are from Boston and surrounding communities, many come from all over the world: North America, Central America, South America, Africa, Asia, the Middle East, Europe and the Caribbean.

With renewed commitment, Roxbury Community College continues its legacy of providing educational opportunities for all who enter its doors.

Governing Boards and Officers

Board of Trustees

Gerald Chertavian, *Chair*
Mark Culliton, *Secretary*
Amanda Fernandez
Betty Francisco
Dr. Jeffrey Greenberg
Chrystal Kornegay
Israul Marrero
Josiane Martinez
Steven Tompkins
Amanda Schaefer, *Alumni Trustee*
Remianna Hearns, *Student Trustee*

President

Dr. Valerie R. Roberson

Executive Staff

Kevin Hepner, *Vice President of Administration & Finance*
Cecile M. Regner, *Vice President of Academic & Student Affairs*
Lorita B. Williams, *Vice President of Advancement & Community Engagement*
Patricia M. West, *Chief Human Resources & Affirmative Action Officer*

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Congratulations
to
The Class of 2018





Special Thanks

Thank you to all our faculty and staff
who worked countless hours to make this
43rd Annual Commencement possible.
Your time and effort are greatly appreciated.

Roxbury Community College
1234 Columbus Avenue
Roxbury Crossing, MA 02120
Tel: (617) 427-0060
www.rcc.mass.edu